

ER 61-1267/a

25 FEB 1961

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Mr. Jack Dougherty, President
Academy of Achievement
Aguaquito and El Estero
Monterey, California

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

Thank you very much for your letter of 13 February inviting me to serve on the Honorary Board of Trustees of your Academy of Achievement.

Much as I am honored by your invitation, I regret that I will be unable to serve on your Board. In view of my present official position, I have followed a firm policy of declining participation in non-governmental committees. However, I appreciate your courtesy in writing to me about this and I am sorry that my reply cannot be more favorable.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

O/DCI, [redacted] SJGrogan:abk(23 Feb. 61)
Rewritten: O/DCI, [redacted] bak(24 Feb. 61)

Distribution:

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(EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FILE *Invitations*)

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The Academy of Achievement

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and the

Banquet of the Golden Plate

Since the beginnings of recorded history, man has honored outstanding performance with various forms of award. The ancient Greeks bestowed the laurel wreath as a mark of victory or merit. After his voyage around the world, Sir Francis Drake received the jewelled star and badge. Down through the ages, the laurel, the scroll, the plaque, the cup, and the medal have been awarded as symbols of approval and gratitude.

Now, for the Man of Achievement in each great field of endeavor, comes a new measure of high honor—an invitation. An invitation to the first annual Banquet of the Golden Plate, hosted by the Academy of Achievement on the Monterey Peninsula, Sunday evening, June 4th, 1961, at the climax of a week-end festival in tribute to the national and international guests of honor.

Fifty men and women of great accomplishment, selected for gold medal awards during the past year by national societies and authorities in the sciences, the arts, and the professions, will take the spotlight at the Banquet of the Golden Plate to represent the many who excel.

Four hundred Californians, preeminent in industry and public welfare, will also be present at the formal \$100 per plate affair to add their brilliance to the acclaim for the national and international citizens of achievement.

"To focus greater recognition on outstanding men and women of achievement; to spark their colleagues with renewed ambition and pride; and to inspire youth with new dreams of achievement in a world of boundless opportunity"—these are the aims of the Academy of Achievement, founded in December, 1960, on the Monterey Peninsula. Prominent citizens—leaders in civic, business, and cultural interests of the community—form its non-salaried Board of Governors.

The Monterey Peninsula, first capital of old California, described by Robert Louis Stevenson as "the finest meeting of land and water in existence," and whose cultural climate is world famed, will provide an ideal setting for the Banquet of the Golden Plate and its gathering of distinguished citizens.

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California and the Monterey Peninsula are proud to lead this dramatic salute to excellence.

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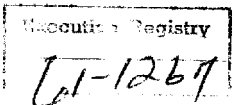
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hy Peskin



A non-profit organization dedicated to honoring
great walks of life.



ACADEMY OF ACHIEVEMENT

AGUAJITO AND EL ESTERO, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA
FRONTIER 2-9411

February 13, 1961

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

The first annual Banquet of the Golden Plate has been announced by the Academy of Achievement to honor America's men and women of outstanding performance, selected for gold medal awards during the past year by national societies and authorities in their chosen fields.

The Academy of Achievement is confident that the drama and the excitement of this recognition will inspire young men and women -- embarking upon careers in the arts, sciences, professions, industry, and public service -- to raise their sights high, to excel in their endeavor.

The Board of Governors of the Academy of Achievement, feeling certain that this program merits your interest and name support, has elected you to the Honorary Board of Trustees.

We look forward to the honor and prestige of your acceptance.

Very sincerely yours,

ACADEMY OF ACHIEVEMENT

Jack Dougherty, President

Encl.
jmf

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